

As an amateur radio operator (AE4MR) I am deeply involved with Emergency Communications. The frequencies between 2 and 80 MHz that are affected by implementing the proposed BPL are essential to providing Emergency Communications. To effectively use these frequencies requires that we are able to receive and understand very weak signals.

In areas that BPL has been implemented it has raised the noise floor to make not only weak signals unreadable but even relatively strong signals are virtually unreadable due to the noise pollution caused by BPL.

While it may be possible that the general public may receive some short term benefit from BPL it will do so only by leaving the HF amateur radio bands unusable not only in times of an emergency but also during normal daily operations as well. There are better methods such as wireless internet access and fiber optics that can be even more effective than BPL without the spectrum pollution that BPL will bring. I strongly recommend the commission consider both the short term and long term needs of our communities before implementing BPL. BPL is, at best, only a temporary solution to a even larger public need.

If implemented BPL will leave many amateurs with no choice but to dispose of their unusable HF radios. This will have significant long term consequences as it will greatly affect the number and availability of operators and radios that can be used for Emergency Communicators for many years to come.

I also strongly urge the FCC to work closely with the ARRL to insure that the RF pollution caused by BPL will not totally destroy the amateur radio HF bands. Current tests conducted by the ARRL show that BPL will pollute our HF bands to the point they will be unusable, other than with extremely strong signals over very short distances.